

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 5, as follows:

The ~~One or more aspects of the~~ present invention relates to optimising resource usage in a packet switched network and more particularly within a packet switched network of a cellular telecommunications network.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 18, as follows:

The group ~~know~~ known as the Open Mobile Alliance has developed a Push to talk Over Cellular (PoC) specification aimed at enabling the provision of services over standard mobile networks which resemble walkie-talkie services, i.e. at the push of a button a subscriber can be instantly connected to one or more other subscribers. PoC relies upon the MRF to set up and handle connections. The PoC specification describes the tools available to detect packet loss over the links between the MRF and individual UEs. PoC also describes ~~a~~ means to request a change in bandwidth utilization, but does not provide detailed algorithms or procedures to enable this.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 5, as follows:

The aspect of the invention is applicable in particular to networks in which the Media Resource Function is arranged to handle media distribution for Push-to-talk over Cellular services.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 3, as follows:

Considering now in detail the PoC service, a single MRF can manage thousands of talk sessions, with each session being independent from other sessions that may be hosted by the same MRF. A given talk session will comprise two or more pieces of user equipment (UE) and the central MRF. These UEs might each have different capabilities. Talk bursts from a UE are encoded and sent to the MRF (via respective GGSNs) as one or more RTP packets, referred to here as simply "packets". The MRF then forwards the packets to the ~~or each other~~ UE participating in the same talk session. The path which the packets take from the UE to the MRF is called the "uplink". The path which packets take from the MRF to the UE is called the "downlink". The rate of packet loss may be different for each link in the chain. Particularly for real-time applications such as VoIP, the quality of the perceived user experience is critically dependent upon the rate of packet loss. A talk session involving ten UEs will involve twenty different links (UE to MRF and MRF to UE) and therefore twenty different potential trouble areas.